

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 490

By McCormick

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Mike and Karen Collins, owners of MCA, and their employees for their meritorious service in the Chattanooga business community and computer industry.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly salute those exemplary institutions that, through an abiding commitment to excellence, are a credit to their communities and this State; and

WHEREAS, MCA, formerly known as Mike Collins & Associates, Inc., is one such extraordinary institution deserving of special recognition; and

WHEREAS, MCA was founded in February of 1987 by budding entrepreneurs Mike and Karen Collins in the basement of their home in Hixson with the intention of providing information technology equipment at competitive prices coupled with peerless customer service to the Chattanooga community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Collins first opened their doors in an office on Amnicola Highway in Chattanooga. By 1995, the thriving business moved into its first freestanding building in the Bonny Oaks Industrial Park on Resource Drive. The following year, Mike and Karen Collins expanded their business to include a maintenance division to service all of their products; and

WHEREAS, by 2002, Mike Collins & Associates, Inc., formally changed its name to begin operating as MCA and continued its rapid growth with the addition of the depot maintenance department in 2005. In 2007, MCA moved its headquarters to its current location on Century Oaks Drive and now has eighty full-time employees and additional offices in Nashville, Knoxville, and Memphis; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, MCA expanded its service offering to include managed services and cloud hosting. Expanding again in 2014, MCA increased the size and capabilities of the warehouse and constructed a state-of-the-art data center and customer support center, which also allowed the addition of help-desk services and 24/7 customer support; and

WHEREAS, MCA is a distinguished member of the Chattanooga Chamber of Commerce and a two-time winner of the Chamber's Small Business of the Year Award and has the distinction of being a complaint-free member of the Better Business Bureau; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Collins are exemplary pillars of the community who generously give to a number of worthy organizations, such as the Forgotten Child Fund, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, YoungLife, Prison & Prevention Ministries, Habitat for Humanity, Bethel Bible Village, NAACP, Abba's House, and several others; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, Mr. and Mrs. Collins furthered their charitable giving with the establishment of the Karen Collins "Un-Teal" There is a Cure foundation, which raises money and awareness for ovarian cancer research. Since 2012, this nonprofit foundation has donated over \$250,000 to lifesaving research projects; and

WHEREAS, the management and employees of MCA continue to play an integral role in the economic life of the greater Chattanooga community and are richly deserving of this body's recognition; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor Mike and Karen Collins, congratulate their thirty years of extraordinary success with MCA, and commend their dedication in establishing MCA as one of the finest businesses in Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.